



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*House of Representatives*  
*State House, Boston 02133-1054*

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Committees:  
Ways and Means  
Economic Development and Emerging Technologies  
Community Development and Small Business  
  
Special Legislative Committee  
on Foster Care

June 8, 2010

The Honorable Martha Coakley  
Massachusetts Attorney General  
Public Charities Division / Caritas Transition  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Attorney General Coakley:

I write today to offer testimony in strong support of the proposed merger between the Caritas Christi Health Care group and Cerberus Capital Management. As a Registered Nurse and the State Representative for the 10<sup>th</sup> Plymouth District, I truly believe that this proposal will allow the Caritas group to bolster its commitment to the work they have always been known for—investing in their patients and employees, and serving as an integral community partner with cities and towns across Massachusetts.

Simply put, the proposed merger between Caritas and Cerberus Capital Management—supported by hospital employees, labor groups, community stakeholders and countless elected officials—would solidify the long-term stability of Caritas hospitals like the Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton. Along with reinforcing the Greater-Brockton region's reputation as a leader in the healthcare field, this proposal would permanently secure the pensions for more than 1,800 current and former employees of Good Samaritan Medical Center. It would allow for \$100 million in infrastructure improvements across the system, including a \$30 million commitment for a new, state-of-the-art emergency department at Good Samaritan to support an estimated 60,000 visits from patients throughout the Greater-Brockton region. Moreover, at a time when the state and our communities are facing near-unprecedented fiscal challenges, the Caritas group's conversion to for-profit status will create a new stream of much-needed tax revenues to help Gateway Cities, like Brockton, continue preserving and maintaining core local services.

For years, the Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center has been a tremendous partner with the city of Brockton and an essential part of the fabric that has weaved so many of the region's communities closer together. With your support, I look forward to continue working with Good Samaritan to chart this new course and a brighter future for the hospital, its patients, its employees and our communities alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

*Christine E. Canavan*

**CHRISTINE E. CANAVAN, RN, BSN**  
State Representative  
10<sup>th</sup> Plymouth District – Brockton, Easton & West Bridgewater

